

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

1 APRIL 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Brazil

a. In the crucial hour, according to press reports, the anti-Goulart revolt centered in Minas Gerais state, seems to be winning the support from elsewhere that it has desperately needed.

b. It has been joined, late press reports say, by six other south and southwestern states, reportedly including Goulart's home state of Rio Grande do Sul, headquarters of the loyalist third army. We are not so sure of the loyalty of this province to the rebel cause.

c. Goulart even so has lost important strength and is on a slippery slope indeed. Army Chief of Staff, Branco, who heads a strong anti-Goulart movement in the army has finally thrown his support to the insurrection, but has reportedly since been arrested.

d. There are conflicting reports concerning the second army commander Krueel, who commands some 25,000 troops in Sao Paulo. Late press reports have him supporting the revolt and moving toward Rio, but this has yet to be confirmed. So too, does a report that some rebel troops from Minas Gerais are on the march toward Brasilia. Most of these troops, it would seem, will be needed at the southern state border to meet loyalist first army forces, under War Minister Dantas moving up from Rio.

(Cont'd)

e. In Rio itself, anti-Goulart governor Lacerda is holed up in the executive mansion surrounded by police in anticipation of a loyalist marine effort to arrest him. Lacerda has few forces of his own and is in a tough spot as the first army is garrisoned in his city.

f. As expected, the Communist-led labor federation has declared a general strike to show its support for Goulart. Some of its ringleaders have been rounded up by Lacerda's police and the strike seems to be only partially effective, but in the explosive atmosphere, massive disturbances could ensue.

g. The only consistency in the welter of confusing and conflicting reports is the notable absence, so far, of open hostilities, even in Guanabara and Rio Grande do Sul (where government and opposition forces are about equal in number) and at the border of the rebel stronghold in Minas Gerais state.

2. Cambodia

a. Sihanouk has decided to put aside his foreign policy problems for a while and take a couple of months off.

b. He has discarded the idea of a Geneva Conference for the time being and no longer plans to go to Hanoi and Peiping to seek help. Nor does he intend to break relations with the US or the UK as he had earlier threatened.

c. In other words, he is temporarily settling for the status quo. Perhaps he realizes domestic problems have been neglected for too long.

d. In any event, he says he is going to devote himself to his family, prepare himself for numerous holidays and anniversaries next month, and get ready for his trip to France (May-June).

3. South Vietnam

a. The Viet Cong continue where possible to level their sights at US military personnel in the field. US trucks in two separate convoys near Hue were singled out for mining and harassing fire last weekend.

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b. They are also now trying particularly to terrorize those local government officials and field officers who have proved themselves effective against them. Two such leaders in the crucial delta area were killed this past week, and another nearly so.

c. The Viet Cong thus seem intent on frustrating Khanh's plans to send better qualified personnel into the field to provide "grass roots" leadership.

4. Somalia-Ethiopia

a. Somali and Ethiopian representatives meeting in Khartoum on Monday reaffirmed their adherence to a cease-fire, but fighting has continued in at least five places along the border.

b. The Ethiopians have moved up reinforcements and seem to be on the offense in retaliation for continuing harassment by Somali tribesmen in the Ogaden.

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NOTES

- A. South Korea - Japan The prospect of a Korean-Japanese treaty has receded, probably into next year at least. It will be some time before public opinion in Seoul can be reconciled to the idea, and officials now say they do not plan to try for a treaty by May when the current session of the Japanese Diet ends.

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F. Turkey Some of the urgency has gone out of the Parliamentary crisis over Inonu's tax bill. The government apparently has decided that the better part of valor would be quietly to settle for a compromise bill.